

Rehabilitation Grants Now Available

for Barns and Other Agricultural Structures Listed on the National Register of Historic Places!

The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (DHR) is pleased to announce the second round of matching grants to fund repairs to barns and other agricultural structures that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Although these types of buildings are among New Hampshire's most cherished landmarks, changing agricultural technology and growing development pressures can make their preservation tenuous. Fortunately, last year DHR received sufficient federal funding from the Historic Preservation Fund to offer these grants.

To be eligible, structures must both be listed on the National Register of Historic Places and retain historical integrity. Additionally, all work must comply with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* and with federal grants regulations. More information on the standards is available either from DHR or online at the National Park Service's web site: <http://www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/tax/rhb/>.

Individuals, non-profit organizations and non-federal government agencies are welcome to apply. Grants will be distributed throughout the state, to a variety of building types, of various ages and sizes.

Priority will be given to stabilization work to insure longevity of historic barns and agricultural outbuildings, such as re-roofing, repair of structural members and drainage improvements. Special attention will be given to structures at risk from decay, disuse or development and to projects that demonstrate a high degree of public benefit. Applicants must have a strong commitment to preserving their barns and be willing and able to comply with all federal grant requirements.

Approximately \$65,000 in total grants is available during this round of funding. All projects will be funded on a 50% matching basis; a federal match of up to \$12,000 will be awarded to each project. Non-federal match can include cash, in-kind or donated labor, equipment or materials, or a combination thereof.

Applications are now available online at DHR's web page, <http://www.state.nh.us/nhdhr/>, via e-mail at preservation@nhdhr.state.nh.us, and by calling or writing DHR at PO Box 2043, Concord, NH 03302-2043, 603/271-3483. Completed applications are due February 28, 2002. July 1, 2002 is the estimated date for projects to begin, and all grant-assisted work must be complete before June 1, 2003.

A question and answer workshop for grant applicants is scheduled for Monday, February 4, 2002, at NHDHR's offices, 19 Pillsbury Street in Concord, from 7 to 8:30 PM. Although attendance is not mandatory, it is strongly suggested. Please call DHR if you plan to attend or for directions, 271-3483.

This grant program adds to a growing initiative across New Hampshire to preserve historic agricultural buildings. Led by the New Hampshire Historic Agricultural Structures Advisory Committee, DHR and the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, other projects include a state-wide survey of agricultural structures, a maintenance guide for barn owners, an assessment grant program and a proposed property tax incentive. For more information about these activities, please contact DHR or the NH Preservation Alliance at 603/224-2281.

Is my barn listed on the National Register?

Both the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (DHR) and the National Park Service have a record of all properties in the state that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Some properties are listed for their individual significance; many more are listed as “contributing” buildings to large historic districts. Either type of listing qualifies an agricultural structure for this grant program.

The National Park Service’s database of National Register properties is available online, at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/research/>. There are a number of ways to search this database; by location is usually the fastest. Your local public library or town hall may also have copies of the forms that are completed when a property or district is nominated. For a barn that may be a contributing building in a historic district or complex, reading over the nomination form and reviewing the map included with it is the best way to confirm whether a building is listed.

Please feel free to call or e-mail DHR with any questions about listing a property on the National Register or to determine whether your agricultural structure is already listed, at 603/271-6437 or preservation@nhdhr.state.nh.us.

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NH Division of Historical Resources
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Inside – more matching grants for agricultural structures listed on the National Register!